

JEWISH OBSERVER

AND

MIDDLE EAST REVIEW

Vol. X, No. 28

JULY 14, 1961

Ninepence



ADEN—NEW CRISIS IN THE MAKING

—PAGE 3

COMMENT

POLICY IN THE GULF

As reported by our special correspondent (*on the opposite page*), Soviet attention has now moved south from Kuwait to Aden and the neighbouring protectorates. This is but one more movement in a logical pattern which started with the economic penetration of Iraq and the U.A.R., the harassment of Persia and more recently the creation of instability in Kuwait, with its side effects on the neighbouring sheikhdoms. It illustrates the practical implementation of the advice given in a Soviet journal that, "It should be borne in mind that oil concessions represent, as it were, the foundation of the entire edifice of western political influence in the (less developed) world, of all military and aggressive blocs. If this foundation cracks, the entire edifice may begin to totter, and then come tumbling down."

That this, in the eyes of the communist world, is a desirable happening needs no stressing. The future of the world, as Mr. Krushchev himself has repeated on many occasions, will be decided by the outcome of the trial of strength between the two basic systems of politico-economic organisation, the capitalist and the communist. The outlook, in his view, is more favourable for the communist cause because capitalism has been weakened by the disintegration of the colonial system, and if he can help this disintegration on its way, he will be only too happy to do so.

* * *

To date, his actively pursued policy of harassment in the Arab world has brought him more promise than fulfilment. His economic aid has taken him into places closed for centuries to other Europeans. His military aid has made large armies dependent upon his whims for supplies and spares. But he has not been able to stop the supply of oil to the west and western naval squadrons can still pass unmolested through the Suez Canal. On the other hand, he has succeeded in keeping Arab suspicions about the west at a high point and, logistically, has demonstrated his ability to keep a large part of the British armed forces tied up by the eruption of a pimple on the Arab chest. This was a valuable exercise which is undoubtedly being weighed at a high level in the Kremlin.

It is the kind of game which, if kept up at its present pace, is likely to send Whitehall reeling with dizziness. There is a limit to which masses of troops can be switched from point A to point B and then possibly on to point C without causing severe depletion in resources and morale. In other words, the long-term

answer to Russian tactics in the Persian Gulf and to the south of it is to be found not in military manoeuvres but in a courageous and far-sighted reassessment of the political approach to the oil-producing nations. Depressed and feudalistic states will always be open to communist incitement and disruption. Only by making the peoples of these states feel that they have a stake in their own future, a stake sufficient to be worth fighting for, can the west hope to oppose the insidious wave of instability now sweeping the shores of the Arabian peninsula.

NO BRAKE ON SPACE

Of course, Israel's meteorological research rocket could be adapted for military purposes. It could just as well be made to travel horizontally as vertically and it would be no difficult task to substitute explosives for the metallic sodium which was packed into the head of the rocket launched so successfully last week. As Maurice Dubin of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in Washington remarked, any country able to demonstrate that it could produce rockets for scientific purposes could also develop rockets for certain military uses, provided it wanted to and had sufficient money, time and manpower. He might also have added—and the inclination.

But Israel has given no indication that she has such an inclination. The rocket's purpose was scientific and so, too, is the research programme which is continuing and which will undoubtedly result in the firing of other and bigger rockets. There is as little point in castigating Israel for pursuing this line of research because it has military overtones, as in condemning her for assembling vehicles because they can be used as armoured cars, or denouncing her for experimenting with new chemicals because they can be used as an instrument of warfare.

Arab insistence upon maintenance of the state of war which they created is no reason for an unwilling party to be required to fall in with this line and abandon scientific development for fear that it may upset the psychological balance in the area. This is to demand that Israel gear its future to the backward-looking attitude of her neighbours rather than to the forward looking vision of the rest of the world, where space is the challenge and its conquerors universal heroes. That Israel should be blessed with an abundance of scientific talents is a circumstance of which she is right to take every advantage, for, in the world of scientific discovery, as has already been well proven, any advance by one nation is a benefit for all men. To expect her to rein in her talents so as to appease the envious anger of those already committed to her destruction is to ask more than any people can be expected to concede.

MIDDLE EAST

AFTER KUWAIT—ADEN?

MOSCOW PROCLAIMS A NEW "PLOT"

from a special correspondent

As the Kuwait crisis dies, or, at least, lies embalmed while the Arab states seek an "Arab solution" and the British prepare for an early evacuation, there are indications of growing trouble in Aden and the neighbouring protectorates, where Moscow is showing renewed signs of interest.

For the past month, talks have been going on in London between the Colonial Secretary and pro-British rulers from the Western Protectorates. The talks were later joined by ministers from the Aden Colony. The purpose of the London negotiations is the establishment of an independent Aden Federation, comprising the colony and the protectorates, which would be in close treaty relations with Britain.

But, in Aden itself, the proposal has come under heavy fire from the Congress of National Organisations, a body representing 19 national organisations and headed by Abdullah al-Asnaj, general secretary of the local trades union council, whose pro-Russian sympathies are said—by the British—to be a well-known factor.

Looks to Yemen: Whatever his sympathies, al-Asnaj, who has a large following among the labouring classes, has rejected in advance any conclusions which might be reached in the London talks and has promised to "expose Britain's efforts at setting up a Kuwaiti-type independence in occupied South Yemen." He favours federation with the Yemen, where Russian influence is becoming firmly entrenched and where teams of Soviet

technicians and experts are now at work on a variety of civil and military projects, inaugurated five years ago.

Al-Asnaj has had swift and pointed support from Moscow. Proclaiming the discovery of a new imperialist "plot" against the Arabs in southern Arabia, Moscow reported last week that the growing national liberation movement was causing great anxiety in London. "The British consider this region one of the most important for the defence of their oil undertakings in the east and try hard to keep their strongholds there.

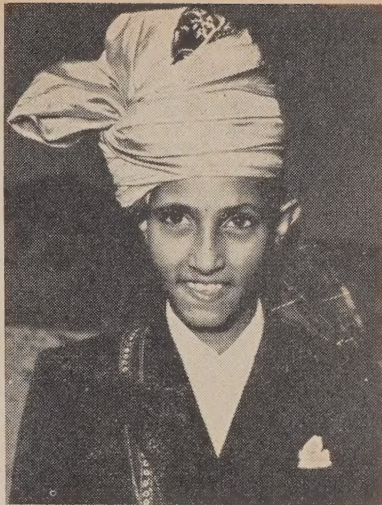
"But," said a Moscow radio broadcast directed to the Arab countries, "experience has proved that the old imperialist methods of enslaving peoples are no longer adequate in the new circumstances. The imperialists prefer to avoid braving the wrath of indignant peoples and instead seek to achieve their objectives through agents."

"Earth is shaking": Reporting uprisings against the British in several of the protectorates, Moscow said that, contrary to the will of their "hireling sheikhs," the people had "set up barricades in the streets, killed British soldiers and destroyed the occupiers' military material. The earth is shaking under the feet of the imperialists."

To counter the opposition of Arab nationalists, declared Moscow, the British had now put up their plan for administrative unity. To the Russian commentator, "it is quite clear that the attempt to set up such a state is nothing but a new and dangerous imperialist plot against the Arab national liberation movement. The visit of representatives of the Federation of Arab South Emirates to London aims at the realisation of imperialist plans which will cause anxiety and dissatisfaction among all Arab nationalists.

"But the peoples of South Arabia are determined to achieve their legal rights; they themselves will decide the future of their country. A handful of traitors will not be able to save imperialism from death, no matter how many intrigues they weave, because history has passed its final verdict against imperialism."

"Partisans": Evidence of more direct Soviet intervention has been found in the Russian-made weapons with which some



13-YEAR OLD SULTAN OF LOWER YAFI
PROTECTORATE
"Hireling" or founding?

of the rebel forces in the protectorates have been armed. It is significant that Moscow speaks of them as "partisans." Their weapons appear to have been smuggled in from Yemen.

There is one basic difference between the Aden and Kuwait situations, one that cannot be tackled by bringing in more British forces. The threat to the British position comes not alone from outside, but also from the rapidly mounting opposition forces within the colony and the federation. That they are to receive—at least—massive Russian moral support has now been made perfectly clear.

HAJ AMIN ASKS ABOUT PALESTINE MORE ARMS FOR KASSEM

from our own correspondent

Baghdad:

We embark this weekend on six days of celebrations to mark the anniversary of the Iraqi revolution. There is general expectation that General Kassem will make some sensational announcement to cover his loss of face in the Kuwait business. A new line on "Palestine" will be his probable get-out.

One of his recent visitors has been the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, Haj Amin, who wanted to know what had happened about the "Palestine plan" which Kassem had always told him was the number one priority on his list of things to be done. The sudden Kuwait diversion has disturbed those who thought that Kas-

JEWISH OBSERVER AND MIDDLE EAST REVIEW

EDITOR: JON KIMCHE

EDITORIAL: 100 Salisbury Sq. House,
Salisbury Square, London, E.C.4
FLEET STREET 3349

☆

ADVERTISEMENTS, ACCOUNTS AND
CIRCULATION:

77 Gt. Russell Street, London, W.C.1
MUSEUM 3815

☆

Subscriptions: £2 per year

● Cover: Main street in Aden.
Photo: Camera Press

sem was "ready for the word go" as far as Palestine was concerned.

But there are other reasons to be disturbed. As a result of the Kuwait business, military governor al-Abdi, who only a few weeks ago was calling in arms from "illegal" possessors all over the country, ordered that they should be re-issued to the people, especially to Arab tribesmen.

Jawad's future: They have been organised into some sort of "militia" by army officers, but this is going to cost Kassem dear, for the tribesmen are loyal to themselves and only themselves. They know that Kuwait will mean nothing to them. They have already lost much more from the revolution than they have gained and have no illusions about what is in store for them.

There is still the future of Foreign Minister Jawwad to be settled. He was not consulted over Kuwait by Kassem and put in his resignation when the row blew up. But it has not been accepted. Jawwad is particularly sore that all the time, money and personal effort he has put into improving Kassem's relations with other Arab leaders and to achieve Arab unity have been brought to nothing. He has no heart to start the business all over again.

Meanwhile, Russia has demonstrated its support for Kassem by agreeing to provide heavy consignments of new weapons. At this rate, Iraq will soon have enough arms and equipment to fit out an army ten times the size of the 60,000 or so men now in uniform. They are obviously intended for some purpose. What that is we shall perhaps know after the coming anniversary celebrations, during which we are promised a surfeit of speeches by the "sole leader".

Also in the Middle East this week:

JORDAN'S PRIME MINISTER denied press reports that his country would propose a Federation consisting of Jordan, Iraq, Kuwait and, possibly, Saudi Arabia.

SUDAN'S MILITARY JUNTA ordered the deportation to a remote southern area of 12 politicians, including two former Prime Ministers, Abdulla Khalil and Ismail Azhari. The arrests followed charges that they had been "spreading rumours and conspiracy against the peoples' interests."

ISRAEL SIGNED a treaty of friendship with the Republic of Upper Volta whose President ended an eight-day official visit to the Jewish State, the first by a foreign ruler. Upper Volta is one of the states invited to the Nasser-Tito "neutralist" conference in Belgrade.

ISRAEL



CONSULTATION AT A HIGH LEVEL

Eichmann judges pause to consider a submission by defence counsel

HAUSNER FINDS IT TOUGH GOING

EICHMANN REFUSES HIS BAIT

from our own correspondent

Jerusalem:

Against a mass of documentary evidence and a small amount of oral testimony which appear to point overwhelmingly to his guilt, Adolf Eichmann maintained under cross-examination this week that everything he did against the Jews he did under orders while, in his heart of hearts, he was opposed to it.

Indeed, in his skilful questioning, which preceded the cross-examination by the Israel Attorney General Gideon Hausner, defence counsel Dr. Servatius did manage somewhat to reduce the projected image of Eichmann from a bloodthirsty monster to something less than that.

Hausner could, of course, rest his case on the recognised principle—established at Nuremberg and upheld by an Israeli court in the Kafr Kassem trial—that the recipient of obviously criminal orders is criminally liable if he carries them out. But Hausner wants to do more.

Self-confidence unshaken: He wants to prove that Eichmann not only carried out his orders but did so with alacrity and that, in the extermination programme, he went beyond his orders and acted on his own responsibility. He also seeks to prove that, in 1944, Eichmann disobeyed orders favourable to Jews and continued deporting them to the death camps.

Such proof has, by general consensus, already been supplied in the course of the elaborate prosecution case. Hausner is now attempting to wrest an admission from Eichmann's own lips or in some way to shake his self-assurance. So far, however, he has failed in this purpose.

Whenever he confronts Eichmann with an incriminating document, the defendant either claims that he wrote or acted under orders from Heydrich or Mueller, or says the document contains an error, or that it is a complete forgery. The prosecution seems not to be making the best of its opportunities to challenge Eichmann on his conflicting statements.

Very astute: Several times it appeared that Eichmann had been caught on the edge of a major admission, but time and again he managed to slip from Hausner's grasp. The accused has turned out to be very astute. He knows exactly what the Attorney General wants and is determined that he will not get it. He twists and turns, often to the amusement of the audience which Judge Landau has continually threatened to clear from the hall, but steadfastly refuses to bite on Hausner's hook.

All in all, it has been a trying week for the prosecution.

[Hungarian episode — pages 14-15]

REFUGEES—NO CHANGE

ROCKET EXPLODES IN CABINET

from Amos Ben-Vered

Jerusalem :

Last Sunday—at its third session on this topic—the Cabinet agreed on the stand to be taken at the forthcoming U.N. General Assembly on the Arab refugee question. While there were differences of opinion about the degree of prior commitments, all present agreed that the question of returning the refugees to Israel could only be part of a peace settlement.

The Cabinet did not take a vote, nor were its recommendations made public. In fact, they were not even formulated in exact terms, but were really designed to serve as the basis for the Foreign Ministry's detailed brief for the Assembly.

This will be worked out along the lines of Ben-Gurion's concluding remarks, which expressed the consensus of Cabinet opinion. His conclusions are the same as his opening remarks when the debate started three weeks ago—that a population exchange had taken place between Israel and the Arab states who had persecuted the Jews, thus forcing them to leave.

No separate discussion : Any question relating to a possible return of refugees could not, therefore, be discussed except as part of a general settlement of questions outstanding between Israel and the Arab states.

There was some lively discussion, especially after Mapam's Israel Barzilai, Minister of Health, demanded a unilateral statement on the part of Israel that she was willing to take back an agreed number of refugees as an overture towards peace talks. Other Ministers were not prepared to commit themselves to this extent.

Before Ben-Gurion's summing-up there was a suggestion that Israel should announce her willingness to negotiate on the question of the repatriation of the refugees, but only in direct talks with the Arabs.

Ben-Gurion would not talk : This was meant to produce a refusal on their part, thus showing the world that it was not Israel which hampered repatriation. However, the majority of the Cabinet felt this was pushing things too far.

Throughout the entire meeting, Ben-Gurion refused to divulge Kennedy's proposals in the talks he had had with him on



AS THE ROCKET SOARED, SO DID ISRAELI SPIRITS
Excited citizens snapped up special editions carrying news of the launching

the question, saying that he was not entitled to do this. He did, however, repeat his own reply to Kennedy's offer (whatever it was). Ben-Gurion's reply followed the lines he laid down in the Cabinet session.

The Cabinet showing on this matter raised observers' hopes that this problem at least has now been removed from the list of subjects on which the parties will denounce one another at the elections.

Heated controversy : While each party stood by its previously expressed position, the Cabinet's matter-of-fact discussion is likely to have its effect on the tenor of election speeches on the refugee question.

In contrast with the refugee discussion at the Cabinet session, there was a sharp and heated controversy over Israel's meteorological rocket, Shavit II. Several Ministers accused Ben-Gurion of turning the launching into a Mapai propaganda stunt.

All the parties took issue with Ben-Gurion for not giving the Cabinet prior notice of the firing, Ben-Aharon of Ahdut Avoda being the most vocal and scathing critic.

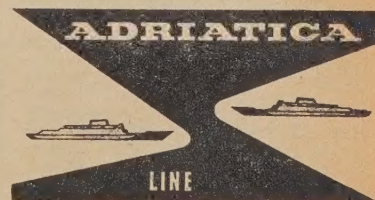
Others have doubts : Besides having an internal effect, he said, the firing of Shavit II. was also a matter of foreign policy, and as such should not have been left to Ben-Gurion's judgement alone. "I cannot continue to participate in a Cabinet where major foreign policy decisions like the timing of the firing are kept secret from Ministers", he declared.

While some of these remarks must be written off as election talk—Ben-Aharon

took pains to have his statement leaked to the press—there were also similar doubts among substantial segments of foreign policy experts in all parties.

They contended that the secrecy surrounding the rocket project had given rise to some false interpretation—pointing specifically to the fact that the announcement that the U.S. was to sell weather rockets to the U.A.R. came after the firing of Shavit II.

No rocket race : In fact, Nasser's rocket deal was concluded some time ago, and it was mainly for propaganda purposes that Israel decided to advance the date of the Shavit firing. (Nasser's shot is scheduled for July 23). His public admission that



ITALY - ISRAEL

by

m.s. "MESSAPIA"

m.s. "ENOTRIA"

Passenger Office :
35 St. James's Street, London, S.W.1
Telephone : WHI 6083
Telegrams : "ITALMAR"

Book direct or through your Agent.



A DARKER SIDE OF THE ISRAELI COIN

In one of Jerusalem's slum quarters, a newly married couple look to better things

the U.S. had sold him weather rockets, coming on the heels of the Shavit firing, conjures up pictures of a Middle East rocket race. Observers say that this is unfortunate and should have been considered beforehand.

There is another side to the picture,

however. The propaganda objectives which determined the change in the firing date seem to have been achieved. The world seems once again to have been impressed by the fact of Israel's scientific achievement—and the world in this instance includes the Arab States.

...TRAVEL IN A BIG WAY



Whatever class you travel, you will find life aboard these great liners a memorable experience. Accommodation, entertainment, meals, service—all are superb, and smoothness is the keynote of your voyage. Cunard liners are fully equipped for the serving of Kosher meals throughout the voyage.

Cunard
to U.S.A. and Canada

Consult your travel agent,
or any Cunard Line office

STILL LIVING IT UP

WORKERS BETTER OFF THAN EMPLOYERS

from Yohanan Ramati

Jerusalem :

The world over, a rising standard of living is reflected in the higher consumption of durable goods—refrigerators, furniture, gas cookers, electrical appliances, motor-cars, wireless sets.

It is also reflected in the larger consumption of housing, entertainment and services (the word consumption being here used in its strictly economic sense).

A further phenomenon when incomes rise is that people tend to eat more meat but less bread or cereals, to spend more on petrol, electricity and gas, but less on paraffin or ice.

Further rise : The consumption figures now released for Israel show that there has been a further substantial rise in living standards during 1960 by every single one of the above criteria.

The average real consumption per head of the population rose by 5 per cent. The real consumption of food per head rose by 6 per cent, this being largely due to the much larger quantities of beef, poultry meat, eggs, coffee, chocolate and alcoholic drinks consumed. On the other hand, the consumption of bread, cereals and pulses declined.

Other figures—all showing consumption per head at fixed prices—disclose that in 1960 the average Israeli smoked $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent more cigarettes (mainly of expensive brands), enjoyed $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent more entertainment, was $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent better off as regards housing standards and $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent better off as regards health services, educational services and such pleasures as staying in hotels and eating in restaurants.

Twice as many cars : He bought $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent more clothing and textiles, and 2 per cent more footwear. Gas consumption increased by 20 per cent, electricity by 15 per cent. The consumption of kerosene slumped 15 per cent and the consumption of ice was also down.

But the greatest change occurred in the proportion of Israelis owning durable goods. Per head of population, the increase over the whole range of these goods was 9 per cent.

Total consumption of imported cars rose by 106 per cent, of pianos 109 per cent, of washing machines 50 per cent, of scooters and bicycles 33 per cent, and of electric mixers and vacuum cleaners 101 per cent.

Nearly half have fridges : Moreover, Israel must be about the only country in the world where wage and salary earners own relatively more durable goods than the self-employed and employer classes.

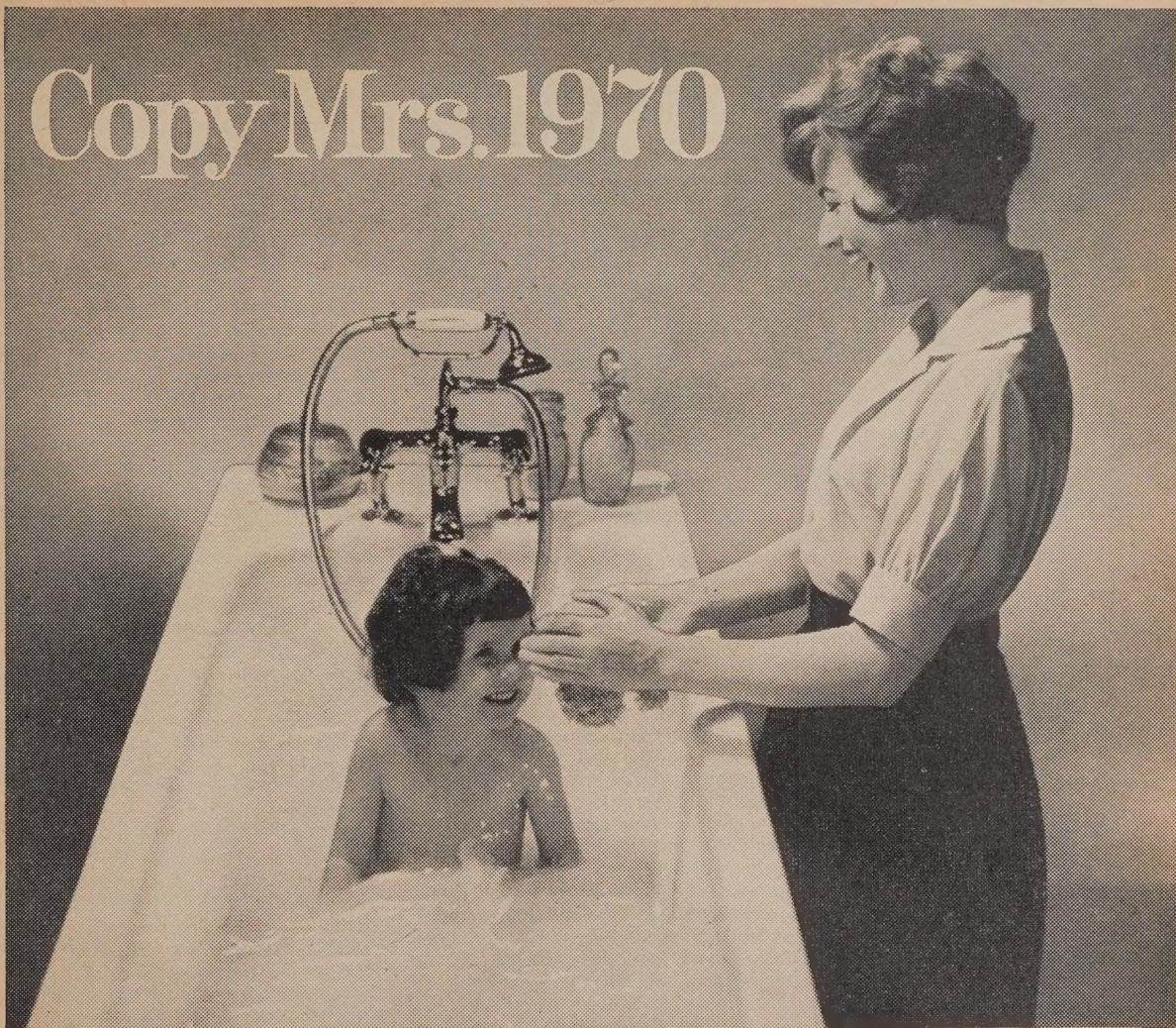
In August 1960, of every 100 wage-earning families, 47 owned refrigerators, 63 owned gas cookers, 17 owned electric washing machines, and 82 owned wireless sets.

As regards the self-employed and employers, 46 out of every 100 families owned refrigerators, 53 owned gas cookers, 14 owned electric washing machines, and 72 owned wireless sets.

It pays to be a worker : Taking the population as a whole, the proportion of families owning these articles approximates more closely to the figures for wage and salary earners, since these form the majority. It seems clear that it pays better to be a worker or an official than a small trader or artisan.

Another interesting comparison was between the improvement in the living standards of Israelis of European or American origin and those of Afro-Asian origin. To make this comparison meaningful, it is necessary to divide both

Copy Mrs. 1970



**...and look forward
to your warmest-ever winter!**

Copy Mrs. 1970. Have oil fired central heating. And you'll have your warmest-ever winter. Your easiest-ever winter. (Oil firing means trouble-free hot water, too.) And your most economical winter — because the running costs for oil are the lowest for any form of fully automatic central heating! Final bonus: your fuel worries have gone for good! Because the super delivery service offered by your Authorised Distributor for Shell-Mex and B.P. Ltd means no more remembering to order fuel!

SHELL-MEX AND B.P. LTD



OIL FIRED CENTRAL HEATING

SEND OFF THE COUPON . . .

and find out all about oil from Shell-Mex and B.P. Ltd,
Shell-Mex House, Strand, London, W.C.2

NAME

ADDRESS

TEL. NO.

TOWN COUNTY

11/1



MORE ISRAELIS THAN EVER ARE GETTING IN THE SWIM
The gap between the Sabras and the new immigrants is closing

groups into old-established residents and new immigrants.

The provisional estimates available show that between 1956-57 and 1959-60 *per capita* consumption rose fastest among old-established residents of Afro-Asian origin (69 per cent), followed by old-established Israeli residents of European

or of American origin (65 per cent).

Sabras behind: Some way behind were the Sabras (46 per cent), new immigrants of Afro-Asian origin (44 per cent) and new immigrants of European-American origin (40 per cent).

In general, the consumption of food and services rose much faster among the old-established residents and the Sabras, while the consumption of furniture and household requisites increased more rapidly among new immigrants.

In assessing the above figures, it should, of course, be remembered that the living standards of new immigrants of Afro-Asian origin were on average lower than those of other sections of the population, both when they arrived in the country and in 1956-57. Nevertheless, the figures show that while the gap between old residents and newcomers is, if anything, growing, that between Afro-Asian Jews and European Jews is gradually being closed.

COMMON MARKET PROS AND CONS

YAHIL REPORTS BACK ON TALKS IN PARIS

from our own correspondent

Jerusalem :

Greece's acceptance as an associate member of the European Common Market and the negotiations now going on with Turkey regarding similar membership, have given new hope to the Foreign Ministry that Israel might be

equally successful with an application for associate membership.

Just how much support Israel might be able to count upon is the subject of a confidential report submitted this week by Foreign Ministry Director General Dr. Haim Yahil, just back from consultations in Paris with several Israeli envoys in Europe and others. There is strong opposition from one or two members, on what can only be described as a mixture of economic and political grounds, the two in about equal proportions.

Within the Ministry of Commerce and Industry there is not too much optimism about Israel's becoming associated with the Common Market. In fact, a report prepared by the Ministry's official in charge of market research, Dr. Michael Rosenberg, suggests that, from a purely fiscal approach, Israel would find it more profitable to subsidise exporters against the higher European customs charges than to join the Community and lower its tariffs on imports from Common Market countries.

Port authority launched : Another proposal which has been put up, and one that was discussed in Jerusalem this week by the Director-General of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Michael Tsur, is that, instead of joining the Common Market, Israel should seek to conclude commercial agreements with individual members based on mutual tariff concessions.

Whatever the final formula agreed upon, Israel is facing her trading future with considerable optimism, reflected in this week's launching of the Israel Ports Authority, of which former Army chief General Laskov has been appointed Director-General, and into which the Government is to pour £20 million of public funds.

The Authority, which is supervised by a Council headed by David Hachohen, will be responsible for the expansion of Israeli ports and harbours and marks a new departure, in that it is the first public corporation to take over powers previously held by the Government. Now there is talk in some quarters—mainly on the Left—of establishing similar authorities for the railways and other forms of transport.

Developing Kiryat Gat : Commercial initiative of another kind was announced last week in Kiryat Gat where the local council and a group of private investors jointly established the Kiryat Gat Development Corporation, which will promote industrial and commercial projects. Initial capital is £70,000, of which the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is being offered a share of £20,000.

ISRAEL

SPECIAL TOURS 1961

AUGUST 3rd

Israel Riviera Tour

SEPTEMBER 7th

Rosh Hashanah Tour

OCTOBER 12th

Fully Conducted Zionist
Sponsored Tour

OCTOBER 30th

M.S. "Moledet" Sea Tour

NOVEMBER 2nd

First Winter Tour

DECEMBER 21st

Second Winter Tour

For details apply to:

ISRA-TOURS

40 Dean Street, London, W.1

Tel. : GERard 5984

IN THE NEWS

MIDDLE EAST ROCKETRY

FOR REASONS BEST known to itself, the Israeli Government is refusing to release the names of the brilliant scientists engaged in rocket research whose endeavours were so pointedly demonstrated in last week's now historic space shot. But I don't think I am giving away any secrets by pinpointing Moshe Arens of the Aeronautical Department at the Haifa Technion as one of those most closely connected with the project. It is about a year since the Haifa scientist publicly announced plans for the launching of a research rocket "within eighteen months." At that time, research was being undertaken on "an approximate method for the calculation of solid fuel payloads of internal width." Both Moshe Aren's brief announcement and the research project were the subject of a short news item in the Israeli press at the time, and scientists engaged on the project were freely at the disposal of journalists for further information for several months afterwards. But, somehow or other, Moshe Aren's announcement was forgotten or shelved as an idle dream and nobody thought of following it up—until six months ago, when the Aeronautical Department at the Technion suddenly became less keen to deal with inquiries.

RUSSIA'S LOADED OFFER

Arens's promise of a launching "within eighteen months" did not, however, go unremarked in Cairo, where President Nasser promised himself that he would beat the Israelis with a spectacular rocket launching on July 23, the anniversary of the military coup. Egyptian scientists, however, were unable to provide the rocket or the fuel to propel it. The Russians stepped into the breach with an offer of rockets and technicians to launch them—but with the proviso that they be allowed to maintain this installation afterwards. As a Russian rocket base on U.A.R. territory hardly seemed to fit in with his role as a leader of the "neutralists," Nasser had reluctantly to refuse the offer.

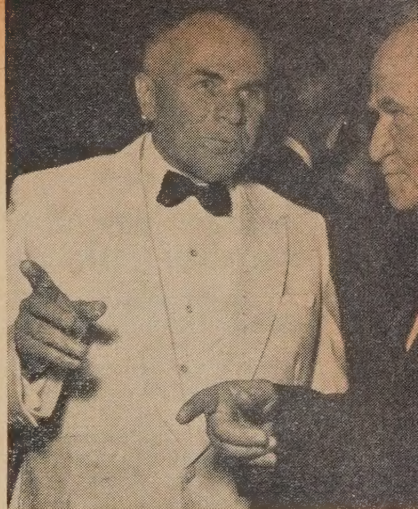
The U.A.R. then tried its luck at purchasing rocket secrets in Europe, but all roads seemed to lead in one direction: Washington. The State Department, aware of Russia's offer and Cairo's rejection, was only too happy to oblige and

provided a formula which would embarrass neither the State Department nor the U.A.R.—the rockets would be purchased from a private company and the Administration would give its approval for their sale. It would thus be a "normal commercial transaction" and in no way counter to Nasser's obligations as a neutralist. And that is the way it is to be. Except for one detail—the Israelis launched their Israel-produced rocket first and made a shower of U.S.-made rockets fired from the Egyptian coastline seem a poor thing in comparison.

This, I gather, is not the end of the Israel research story. At least two other rockets are ready for launching, part not of a fireworks display for a special occasion, but of a long-term scientific project.

INTO THE FIELD

THE RECENT VISIT to Western Germany by the Arab League Secretary General and the reinvigoration of Arab propaganda services in German-speaking countries lend considerable point to the news I had this week of the launching of an Israeli counter-offensive. The task of directing it has fallen upon the already heavily burdened shoulders of Dr. Uri Naor, Israel's Consul-General in Zurich, who has become virtually a one-man Israel information centre in a country where heavily-financed Arab propaganda organisations have been entrenched for some years. I have just seen the first two



A TELLING POINTER
After the launching, with Soviet
Ambassador Bodrov

pamphlets in a series being put out from Naor's office. One, under the imprint of the Israel Foreign Ministry, is a translation of the English-language pamphlet *The Jewish Exodus from the Arab Countries* and the other is a compendium of economic facts and figures. Both are extremely well produced, and the second is a particularly invaluable source of statistical and other information. Their quality is not surprising—Naor is an old hand at journalism and writing generally, having been editor of the Czech Jewish weekly *Selbstwehr* before the war, a journalist in Tel Aviv, Israeli press attache in Prague, director of information with the Israel mission in Cologne and deputy director of information at the Foreign Ministry. He will require all this experience and a great deal of support if he is to make a lasting impact in the battle of words which has now been joined.

TILLIE & HENDERSON LTD.

CHESTER

MANUFACTURERS OF

Dee Hill Shirts

AND

Restrite Pyjamas

U. A. R.

BRITAIN AGAIN THE VILLAIN

CAIRO FINDS A BAGHDAD-LONDON PLOT

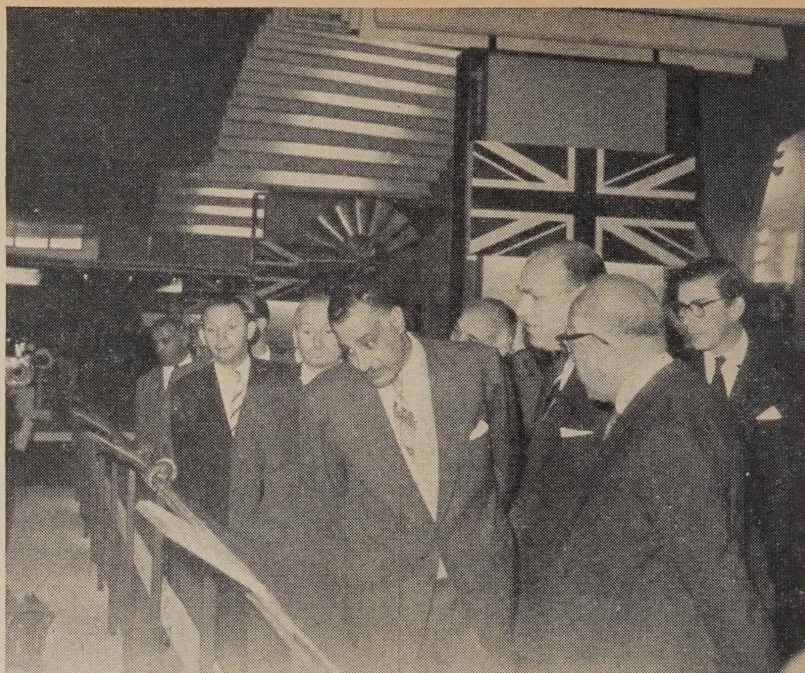
from our special Middle East
correspondent, Robert Gee

In agreeing to give an interview to the London correspondent of the Cairo newspaper *al-Akhbar*, the British Foreign Secretary, Lord Home, felt that this was as good an opportunity as any to get in a good word for his government's intentions in the Middle East.

It was unfortunate, however, that the publication of his interview coincided with a switch in the policy of President Nasser's Government. In the first stages of the Kuwait crisis and the landing of British troops, its line had been to condemn Kassem for creating a situation in which British troops could return to the Middle East in the guise of protectors.

Toward the end of last week, after Baghdad had made much of Cairo's permission for units of the British Navy to pass through the Suez Canal and Arab League Secretary General Hassouna had canvassed opinions in a number of member states, the Cairo line changed swiftly. There was no longer any crisis in Kuwait. The British had to get out—and fast. Some Cairo comment went so far as to suggest that the Ruler of Kuwait had overreached himself in asking the British to come to his aid.

Sympathy with Arab nationalism: Thus it was that, when Lord Home's interview



A TRIBUTE TO BRITISH SKILL—AT AN AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION!
In other fields, "sweet talk" is but a name for poison

appeared, it served only to fuel the bonfire upon which British policy in the Middle East was already in the course of being roasted. The Foreign Secretary, according to the version of the interview which appeared in *al-Akhbar*, said there was absolutely no intention of resorting to force in the Middle East. He referred to the U.A.R.'s policy of positive neutrality and said Britain recognised this policy. "We respect neutrality and co-exist with it."

Britain attached great importance to trade with the U.A.R. and the government would do all it could to expand it. Everything possible was being done to help British firms in this regard and he hoped that British firms would be able to participate in U.A.R. development projects.

According to *al-Akhbar*, Lord Home stated that Britain sympathised with Arab nationalism and with the desire of the Arab states to maintain their independence. While Britain had certain obligations in the Middle East by virtue of certain treaties, it did not seek to interfere in the internal affairs of any Arab state. It was the Government's belief that it was the duty of Britain, as a member of the United Nations to endeavour to solve the problems of the Middle East at the U.N.

No treaties with Israel: Speaking about relations between Britain and Israel, the

Foreign Secretary was quoted as saying that it was a natural relationship which existed between two member states of the U.N. Britain did not support Israel against the Arabs and there were no treaties between Britain and Israel, nor was Israel provided with special aid. When Israel applied for the purchase of arms, it was supplied with the arms necessary for its internal security and self-defence. It was in accordance with this policy that Britain had sold arms to the Arab states.

This may have seemed harmless enough in London while British warships were passing through the Canal with the assistance of the U.A.R. Canal authority. But by the time they had reached the other end (or, in time for them to have reached the other end), Cairo was off on its new tack.

This enabled *Akhbar el Yom*, commenting on the Home interview, to note with regret that Britain had played its card with extreme skill on this occasion, but also to remind its readers that "Britain has a well-known history in the Arab East. Britain always knows how to make use of a situation to the best of its interests at the expense of all Arabs."

"Open threat": The British Foreign Secretary's statements abounded with sweet talk about good intentions, respect for Arab nationalism and so forth, said the Cairo newspaper, but at the same

**DENIZCILIK BANKASI T.A.O.
DENIZYOLLARI ISTANBUL
TURKISH MARITIME LINES**



TURKEY-CYPRUS-ISRAEL

by **M.S. "MARMARA"**

**ISRAEL-ITALY-FRANCE-
SPAIN**

by **M.S. "ISTANBUL"**

For particulars please apply:

WALFORD LINES LTD.
48-50 St. Mary Axe, London, E.C.3
Telephone: AVENUE 5212
Cables: DENIZBANK

time British forces were continuing in occupation of Kuwait. As for the supply of arms to Israel, these had not been used for defence, as Lord Home had said, but for attack.

Cairo radio supplemented this with its own comment: "The continued presence of British forces in Kuwait, despite Iraq's declaration that it will not use force in its claim to Kuwait, constitutes a threat to Kuwait's independence and simultaneously involves a clear ignoring of the freedom and of the independence of the Kuwaiti people and an open threat to the freedom of the whole Arab people."

By the beginning of this week, Cairo had come up with a new story altogether. Its outline, later filled in by the U.A.R. press and other propaganda agencies, was given by star commentator Mohammed Urug in a broadcast directed to all the Arab countries.

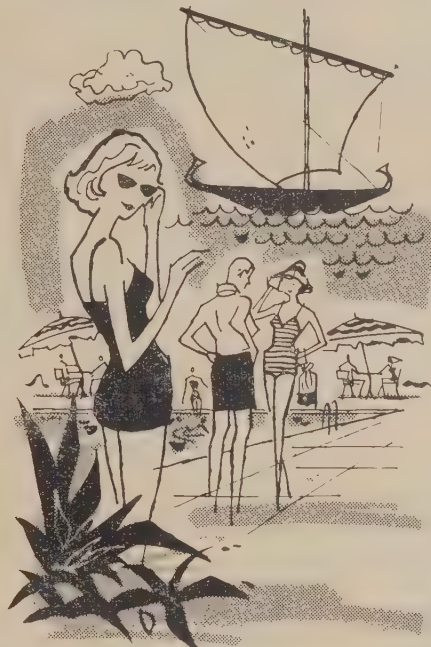
"British moved first": The preparations for the British landing in Kuwait, he stated, "were well under way before Maj.-Gen. Kassem broadcast his statement in which he demanded the annexation of Kuwait to Iraq." In fact, said fellow-commentator Abdel Fatta Hillal, filling in the details, the whole crisis was fabricated so as to enable the return of British forces to Kuwait.

The British had been spurred to action by the Arab League's discussions of proposals for the formation of a joint Arab military command and the establishment of an Arab common market. The fabricated crisis began "with Kassem's statement proclaiming Kuwait's annexation. Later events occurred successively and rapidly, and culminated in the landing of a large number of British forces in Kuwait with remarkable speed."

Al Ahram went even further. The Kuwait crisis was a plot jointly formulated by Baghdad and London to wreck the plan for a joint Arab command. The Iraq Army, it pointed out, was now completely immobilised, facing the British troops across the Kuwaiti border. If Israel were now to move to divert the Jordan and this provoked a clash between Israel and the U.A.R., Iraq would cite the apparent excuse of Kuwait for staying out of the conflict.

Wiser? Clearly, it is Nasser's intention to underline that, if he now opposes the British presence in the Middle East, it is not to be interpreted as a gesture of support for Iraq. And, by tying up the Iraqis and the British, no matter the contortions required to achieve this, to call down a plague upon both their houses. It is possible that Lord Home is a little wiser this week than he was seven days ago.

WORLD-FAMOUS RESORT **Israel** WORLD-FAMOUS HOTEL **Sheraton-Tel Aviv**



A swimming pool . . . air-conditioning . . . the finest in kosher and continental cuisine . . . cocktail lounges . . . all rooms with outside views — all at the new, luxurious Sheraton-Tel Aviv overlooking the Mediterranean, Israel's first American-style hotel. Only 4 hours 35 minutes by jet from London. *For reservations, see your travel agent or contact Sheraton's General Agent in the United Kingdom:*

**Frames Tours, Ltd., 25-31 Tavistock Place,
London W.C.1, Tel: Euston 3488**

SHERATON TEL AVIV HOTEL

60 Sheraton Hotels in 42 cities in the U.S.A., in Hawaii and Canada

UNCO-OPERATIVE SYRIANS GIVE CAIRO CONCERN

GRAIN SEIZURE IS AUTHORISED

In the shadow of the diversion caused by the Kuwait episode, the U.A.R. has taken the opportunity of tightening its hold on the Syrian economy, where its plans for the provision of adequate food-stuffs were being threatened by the unco-operative attitude adopted by the North-

ern Region's farming community.

In a decree issued on July 1, the Ministry of Supply acquired the authority to seize all stocks of wheat in the possession of "merchants, farmers, banks and all corporate and natural persons, whether such quantities belong to these bodies or others."

Farmers will be allowed to keep a regulated amount of their crops for family consumption and for sowing. The rest will be taken over by the Government. Committees are being appointed in each province to supervise the seizure of stocks



NO REJOICING IN SYRIA

A new squeeze on the farmers and merchants—unity remains a fantasy

which will be carried out "regardless of any detention or objection, whether judicial or otherwise."

Merchants stop imports: The Ministry of Supply itself will decide what price to pay for the crops it seizes. So as to prevent any part of the crop slipping from its grasp, an immediate ban was placed upon the movement of wheat from one province to another without a licence which has to be obtained from the Ministry.

Judicial police officers have been empowered to make reports against anyone violating the provisions of this decree. Any grain not declared and discovered by them, will be confiscated, as will grain found being moved without licence.

Non-co-operation in another sphere was reflected in the announcement that the Ministry of Supply had authorised the Grain Office to import sufficient sheep to meet local meat requirements. This was being done, it was explained, because merchants had stopped importing them altogether.

Agrarian reform delays: Although a month had passed since the publication of a decision permitting merchants to engage in the import and export of sheep, many merchants had failed to apply for licences.

There have also been obstacles in the implementation of the loudly trumpeted Syrian agrarian reform plan. An official was responsible for the understatement of the year with the observation that implementation of agrarian reform "has not exceeded the estimates." Of the 2½ million hectares of land available for distribution, only 600,000 had been disposed of in the course of a year.

It is against this background and the

ban placed earlier this year on Syrian foreign currency dealings, that Syria will be expected to join the July 23 celebrations of the U.A.R. anniversary. It becomes increasingly obvious that, despite the efforts made by Nasser and his aides to arouse some fervour for union in the hearts of the Syrians, there is more and not less hostility to the continuation of Egyptian control.

Security discussed: With growing resentment in almost every sector of Syria's national life, it is not surprising that Syrian internal security has been under discussion by Army chiefs in Cairo during the past week.

THE ARABS AND ISRAEL'S WEATHER ROCKET

JORDAN PREMIER AT-TALHOUNI: "From our knowledge of the nature of the battle between us and Zionism, we see that the assumption of a scientific guise for the rocket launching operation cannot possibly hide from the Arabs the aggressive motives which lie behind any achievement of any modern weapon."

LEBANESE NEWSPAPER "BAYRUT AL-MASA": "Now, before Israel attacks the Arab states, unite the Arab armies. Now, before we lose everything, place all the Arab countries in a state of war. Now, before we wake up to Israeli rockets whistling over our heads, attack the enemy. What are you waiting for, and what do you expect?"

SYRIAN NEWSPAPER "AL-AYYAM": "This Israeli attempt should make us strengthen our will and think seriously of developing our armament, of reviving our scientific spirit, and of encouraging the scientists to experiment on the launching of a real rocket, not a fake one meant to serve as a piece of propaganda and a bug-aboo."

CAIRO RADIO: "We know that Mr. Ben-Gurion is looking for deterrent means and is trying to convince us that we cannot restore our rights, through either peace or war, and that it is better for us to acknowledge the fact that Israel is established on our land to stay. However, we declare that all these attempts are ludicrous, for the dwarf cannot convince the giant that he is stronger."

LEBANESE NEWSPAPER "AN-NAHAR": "While Israel was working hard to build her atomic reactor and rocket in the land of our fathers and forefathers, the sheikdoms and emirates did nothing but build palaces, invest in banks and rise the prices of gold and jewels."



**BATTERY
CHRISTMAS
CRUISE**

LONDON · TANGIER
CASABLANCA
LAS PALMAS · MADEIRA
MALAGA
SOUTHAMPTON
December 23-January 6
FARE FROM £80
(Single & Double cabins)

Apply
your local Travel Agent, or
STELP & LEIGHTON LTD.
12/13 Fenchurch Buildings,
London E.C.3. (ROYal3111)

TEL-AVIV?



ROLLS-ROYCE YOUR WAY BY BOAC 707 JET!

ONLY £78. 15s. SINGLE • £141. 15s. RETURN (VALID YEAR ROUND) TOURIST CLASS FROM LONDON
23-DAY EXCURSION £119. 14s. RETURN (until 31st October)

Fly BOAC 707 jetliner to Tel Aviv—for Rolls-Royce smoothness and comfort plus BOAC personal service all the way! Delicious Kosher meals are served, too, if you prefer them.

Twice-weekly BOAC services from New York and London (via Geneva), luxury First Class or low-fare. From Tel Aviv, onward flights connect with BOAC *Comet* services to India, Pakistan, the Orient and Australia.

Book now! For full details of all services, consult your local BOAC Appointed Travel Agent or any BOAC office.

ALL OVER THE WORLD

B·O·A·C

TAKES GOOD CARE OF YOU

BRITISH OVERSEAS AIRWAYS CORPORATION

TRIAL

"BLOOD FOR GOODS"

EICHMANN'S OWN VERSION

from our own correspondent

Jerusalem :

The "blood for goods" deal—the proposed barter by the S.S. of a million Hungarian Jews for 10,000 winterised lorries—is the core of the indictment against Adolf Eichmann.

Here, the prosecution can prove quite conclusively that Eichmann had the power to prevent the deportation of Jews to the death camps. It has also been shown that, even while he purported to be negotiating with the Jewish Rescue Committee, he was doing everything he could to ensure that the negotiations would never come to anything.

Extensive testimony on this part of the charge has been given by Jewish witnesses—Joel Brand, the little man who overnight became a key figure in the drama, his wife Hansi, and Pinhas von Freudiger, at that time Chairman of the Budapest orthodox congregation.

Damning evidence: A key witness from the other side was S.S. *Obersturmbannführer* Kurt Becher, now a wealthy merchant in Bremen. His testimony, given before a judge in Western Germany, has been officially incorporated into the Jerusalem District Court's minutes, and is particularly damning.

When Eichmann himself gave evidence on the "blood for goods" deal (his direct examination took nine days), defence counsel Servatius did his best to ease things for him. He had questioned Eichmann at great length on other subjects, but the Hungarian "chapter" took up less than half a morning.

Eichmann's version of the story went like this: While he was making preparations to deport Jews from Budapest, Becher walked into his office in the Majestic Hotel one day in the early part of 1944, and told him that he (Becher) had been specially assigned by Himmler to obtain for the S.S. a wide range of goods which were at that time in



A VIEW FROM THE DOCK
"Brooded" on Hungarian Jewry

extremely short supply within Germany.

"I was infuriated": "In the course of my conversation with him I realised that this man was trying to do precisely what Himmler had forbidden (although he sometimes permitted it in very exceptional cases when the Reich had a definite interest in it)—namely, grant emigration permits." Becher considered that it was in the Reich's interest to obtain foreign currency or goods against emigration permits, Eichmann said.

This "infuriated" Eichmann. Here was a "non-police person" who could take decisions on matters which he, and often his chief, Mueller, was not authorised to decide. What was more, it was all to do with emigration, "the field into which I had virtually grown up." While he was forced (as he did not cease to assert) to carry out deportations, he was denied the handling of emigration "for which I considered myself competent".

His fury was only increased, Eichmann went on, by Becher's constant attempts to get him to speed up deportations in order to "create a deportation climate, a nervous climate in which Himmler's order to barter lives for goods could more easily be carried out."

"I had to outbid them": Then he started thinking, Eichmann went on. He had understood that it was planned to barter the lives of 100-200,000 Jews against supplies, so he sent one of his

aides to the *Abwehr* (German counter-intelligence), which was trying to push a similar deal, as well as to Becher's own organisation, to find out exactly what the situation was, "for it was clear to me that I had to outbid both of them."

His emissaries reported that "quite a lot could be done". Eichmann "brooded" on the matter and decided that, if he wanted to get sole control of the project and achieve the exclusion of Becher and the *Abwehr*, he would have to make his "superiors" a "grandiose" offer.

That grandiose offer was one million Jews. He could put forward a figure like that, Eichmann said, so that he would not run the risk of being thrown out of the room by his superiors. "If I had spoken out of sentiment or pity, or if I had mentioned 5,000 or 10,000, Mueller would not even have listened to me. . . . But a million, that was new. It was too big for Mueller to reject on his own.

"Surprise approval": "On top of that I thought up the 10 per cent clause (100,000 Jews to be released at once as proof that the offer was genuine) because I knew that Brand would not succeed in his mission abroad without showing any guarantees. . . . Then I said to myself: 'Once these 100,000 are across the frontier, then that very fact will ensure that the deal will go through.' How, where and what, did not interest me at all at that time. And so I set out for Berlin. . . ."

He saw Mueller, Eichmann said, but Mueller could not decide on his own and had in turn to consult his superiors. Eichmann went to Berlin two or three times and was "surprised" to learn that his project, including the 10 per cent clause, had been approved, because, he understood, Himmler wanted to motorise the 22nd and 8th S.S. cavalry divisions.

It was at this time that "Brand came to see me one day. How he came, where he came from, who had sent him, I cannot remember." Eichmann's version of how their conversation began chimed with Brand's.

"An honest man": From then on, Eichmann said, he did everything to make the barter deal successful. "Brand impressed me as an honest man, an idealist, and that was qualification enough for him, as far as I was concerned. Personally I was very happy when Brand testified truthfully in the witness box about what happened at that time, with a few minor exceptions."

Then Eichmann reached the crucial point of his evidence. When the go-ahead came from Berlin, he received orders at the same time that "the projected evacuations according to the railway timetable and the preparations of the Hungarian

EXHIBITION : July 13th—August 12th, 1961

OUTSTANDING NEW ISRAELI PAINTER

MARGIT BERECKZI

Lincoln Gallery, 8 Sloane Street, S.W.1

Daily: 9.30-5.30

Saturday: 9.30-1.00

gendarmarie, must start and must not be delayed."

That was one of the reasons, Eichmann said, why he kept pushing Brand and why he ordered Krumei to escort him to the courier aircraft in Vienna so that there should not be any hitch.

"I never said it": Eichmann denied that he said to Brand that he would "turn the mills in Auschwitz on or off". He never had any power to do so. What he did say to Brand, Mrs. Brand and Dr. Kastner, Eichmann declared, was that "deportations will go on until, and will be stopped only when, Joel Brand returns with a declaration that the Jewish organisations abroad have accepted." That was an order, he said, which he could not change.

As far as he was concerned, Eichmann declared in conclusion, "I submitted the matter in a perfectly legal way to my superiors and it was approved in the same perfectly legal way. When those abroad ("das Ausland") caused it all to fail, it pained me.

"I say that I am one of the few who can understand the fury and pain of Joel Brand. Conversely, I think that Joel Brand, now that he knows from the documents that I had nothing to do with the annihilation, can understand my fury at the failure of the affair. I have nothing to add."

"Not from pity": Servatius, in a final question, then asked Eichmann: "Did you point out in your negotiations with your superiors that you pitied the Jews and that one had to help them?" Eichmann replied: "I am under oath and must testify truthfully. I did not do this thing out of pity. In fact, I would have been kicked out, if I had as much as mentioned the word."

Kurt Becher's story differed from Eichmann's in a number of essential details. Eichmann, Becher said, constantly sabotaged his (Becher's) attempts to get the barter deal going and circumvented Himmler's order that it should be implemented.

In October or November, 1944, according to Becher, he secured a direct order from Himmler that all killings of Jews must stop. "Eichmann was most unhappy when he saw it," Becher also complained to Himmler that Eichmann did not take his (Himmler's) order seriously and obeyed them only if they were confirmed by Mueller. Eichmann had told him this personally, Becher declared.

Becher said that he had suggested that Himmler see Eichmann and that awarding him a medal would soften him up. Subsequent events showed that the Himmler-Eichmann interview made no difference. The deportations went on.

EVERY DAY MORE SMOKERS DISCOVER THE NELSON TOUCH ✱



✱ Good tobacco
and a good tip
give you better
taste and more
of it - that's the
Nelson touch

NELSON
TIPPED
3/7 FOR TWENTY

MADE BY THE MAKERS OF SENIOR SERVICE

BOOKS

SOUTH OF SAHARA

THE NEW AFRICA, by Smith Hempstone; 664 pp., index; (Faber); 45s.

The bush-fire speed of nationalism, the disintegrating tribal society, the crumbling fabric of the accepted hierarchy, the death of experienced leaders are all factors that need to be understood in any real appreciation of the new African nations.

Smith Hempstone, an American journalist who spent 30 months in Africa, sets out in *The New Africa* to acquaint "the intelligent layman" with the emergent African states south of the Sahara and north of the Congo, that area where the great experiment in African freedom is taking place. His profiles of African leaders are written with the skill and accuracy of the truly accomplished journalist.

Hempstone explains the personal rule of Haile Selassie, the most progressive force in the country, who "has brought about as much democracy to Ethiopia as could be hoped for." I found his appraisal of Nkrumah interesting, too. "... a brilliant politician but not the great statesman which Africa so desperately needs, a man with a few set ideas and no great flexibility or depth of vision ... He worships at his own shrine and there is no room there for any ideology which might diminish his personal stature by one jot."

The totalitarian nature of Touré's Guinea is confirmed by the author, but he believes that the country may still be



THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY'S MAZAR LIBRARY
From the four corners of the earth to study in Jerusalem

saved from becoming a communist satellite. Hempstone feels that the British and French will continue to play a major role in African affairs for some time to come. And he thinks that the United States, as a non-colonial power, should also continue and increase financial and technical assistance. But as the economic reconstruction of Africa may well be beyond the financial means of the western powers, he believes that "it is better that help should come from the Russians than not come at all."

"The Israelis of all people," Hempstone affirms, "have performed the most brilliant job of diplomacy among the nations of the New Africa. ... Since it is a small nation, Africans feel that they can accept assistance from Israel without prejudice to their political freedom."

Some of his forecasts about Africa's future are engaging. For instance, Hempstone thinks that Mauritania, once the poorest of the poor, may soon have a higher *per capita* income than any other African state. Another theory he puts forward—which sounds plausible enough—is that, as Africa is poor in agricultural produce but potentially rich in minerals and hydro-electric power, in time the continent may well become an importer of food, and an exporter of manufactured goods.

This is an important and attractive reference book. I sometimes wished, however, that Hempstone did not measure everything by American standards. But this is a detail in a most readable and instructive book.

Ilana Even

THE PROFESSOR REMEMBERS

THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM, by Norman Bentwich; 168 pp., index, illustrations; (Weidenfeld and Nicolson) 25s.

Professor Bentwich has been associated with the Hebrew University since its foundation, as a member of the preliminary committee, as a Governor and as a member of the staff, and it would have been most surprising if he had written anything but a highly competent and authoritative book.

As Chairman since 1945 of the British Friends of the Hebrew University, and for the last eight years, Vice-Chairman of its Board of Governors, Professor Bentwich has an intimate knowledge of every facet of this institution's background, history and evolution, and he handles his subject with skill. Moreover, partisan though he might be expected to be, his accounts of the various controversies which have been a feature of the Hebrew University's existence, as indeed of any live—and lively organisation—are restrained and fair. Sometimes, as in the account of the late Selig Brodetsky's term as President of the University, one wishes that he had been somewhat less reticent, but on the whole, the dignity with which contentious matters are treated befits the subject of the book.

All in all, then, this is a book worth reading and owning. However, and this is not Professor Bentwich's fault, its price may well put it out of the reach of many.

S. Lightman

NEW FROM ISRAEL

See them Here and Now

PLEESOMATIC

Gearco Fruit Juicer. EFFORTLESS!

PLEEZON

Home Espresso—Up to 10 Cups!

AMORETTE

Radio, Battery-Operated. Full Transistor, including 2 Short Wave Bands. Collapsible aerial!

AMCOR PEER

9.2 Cubic Feet, Luxury Refrigerator at Low Cost.

AMCOR TOPAZ

10.2 Cubic Feet Refrigerator, with the New Square Line.

Call or write for illustrated lists.

L. FRANKENBERG LTD.

Manufacturers, Wholesale Distributors

37 Houndsditch, London, E.C.3

SPECIAL TERMS FOR EMIGRANTS OR SOJOURNERS

PHILATELY

HOW THE MAIL CAME TO JAFFA

BATTLE OF THE POST OFFICES

from F. W. Pollack

Tel Aviv :

For many years the Ottoman authorities tried to prevent foreign post offices from operating in the territory of the Turkish empire. But Turkey was too weak to take any effective steps, except to forbid her own nationals to make use of them.

Even the Turkish Postal Law, enacted on June 19, 1882 brought about no change, although it stipulated expressly that the posts were a government monopoly.

Because of this situation, the opening of the Orient rail route to Istanbul in 1888 became the cause of an open conflict between the "sick man of Europe" and the other countries of the Continent.

The Turkish authorities would not allow the new railway to carry the foreign post offices' mail bags. The Great Powers took retaliatory measures, and the Turks had no option but to retreat.

They granted provisional permission in 1888 which, characteristically, remained in force until the final wind-up of the Levant post offices.

Railway concession : The Powers were less successful in Palestine. The initiator of the Holy Land's first railway was a Jerusalem Jew called Joseph Navon who, after many endeavours, was granted a 71-year concession in 1888 by Sultan Abdul Hamid.

Navon's plans to build a railway with the assistance of Turkish financiers proved unsuccessful. He then founded a corporation in France to which he sold his concession (*Société du Chemin de Fer Ottoman de Jaffa à Jérusalem et Prolongements*).

The corporation got down to construction work without delay, and the railway was opened to the public in 1892. It became an important factor in the development of Jerusalem.

No foreign mail : After the British occupation of Palestine, its original narrow gauge was widened to take military traffic. After World War I, the railway was purchased by the Mandatory Government for £565,000.

The 1888 concession for the operation

of a railway between Jaffa and Jerusalem contained a clause prohibiting foreign post offices operating in Palestine (then still part of the Ottoman Empire) from making use of the railway to transport their mails.

It appears that the Powers did not put up any stiff resistance to this measure. The most probable reason is that the transport of mail by road between Jaffa and Jerusalem did not present any technical difficulties and meant hardly any delay in comparison with transport by rail.

Tried to get around it : From photographs of documents in our possession, we learn that the Austrian authorities tried, for a while at least, to come to terms

and addressed to the respective Consular offices in Jaffa and Jerusalem."

No steps, however, were taken to circumvent the regulations, and on February 28, 1893 the Austrian Consulate in Jerusalem reported to the Austrian Embassy in Istanbul as follows:

"It will be known from the exchange of documents that the Ottoman Government gave the concession to the French company only on condition that no foreign mail bags would be transported by it."

"New conflicts": "This prohibition, intended to protect the Ottoman postal services would—even if the company agreed to do what we demand—be considered a breach of contract and an act of con-



JERUSALEM RAILWAY STATION SEVENTY YEARS AGO
When the Turks refused, the French were pleased to help

with the Turks—or to circumvent the boycott clause in the concession in some way or other.

The first reference to the railway between Jaffa and Jerusalem appears in a letter of the Austrian post office at Trieste. Addressed to the Austrian Consulate in Jerusalem, it was dated April 13, 1892.

But the *démarches* of the Austrian Embassy at Istanbul were of no avail, and ways and means were sought to obtain permission for the transport of mail with the help of the French authorities (the railway company being a French company and having been established with French capital).

Nothing was done : Detailed proposals were submitted by Mr. Pascal, in charge of the Austrian post office in Jaffa, but the Austrian Consulate-General in Jerusalem favoured a suggestion made by the director of the Austrian post office in Jerusalem, Mr. Tarossian, to "arrange unobtrusively the forwarding of mail in a basket, provided with a Consular seal

vance, and would again serve as a pretext for complaints. This would create new conflicts with the Ottoman Government which is exactly what our Government is trying to prevent."

This attitude of the Austrian authorities to leave matters as they were and to give up all claims for the use of the railway for the purpose of transporting mail was finally confirmed in a letter of September 23, 1893, sent by Austria's Consul-General, Kwiatkowski, to the Austrian Embassy in Istanbul.

The other Powers, especially Germany, must also have tried to use the Jaffa-Jerusalem railway for the transport of their mail. But no records of their *démarches* have been preserved.

Letters sent by road : In any case, the Austrian, French, German, Italian and Russian post offices had to continue to send all mail between Jaffa and Jerusalem by road until the outbreak of World War I, when all foreign post offices in the Ottoman Empire had to close down for good and all.

Jewish Observer

AND MIDDLE EAST REVIEW

**NEW
YEAR
GREETINGS**

*We invite our readers to insert their
NEW YEAR GREETINGS in a special
NEW YEAR issue of the JEWISH OBSERVER to be
published on September 8, 1961. Would you please use
this form and forward together with your remittance.
(10/- for 30 words, 2/6d. for every additional 6 words.
Display advertisements £2 per single column inch).*

NOTE : LAST DATE FOR RECEIPT OF GREETINGS IS SEPTEMBER 1, 1961

To the Advertising Manager,
Jewish Observer and Middle East Review,
77 Great Russell Street, London, W.C.1

Please insert the following Greeting in your New Year Number for which I enclose
£..... :.....s.....d.

Name.....

(BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE)

Address.....

..... Date.....

TEXT OF GREETING

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

ISRAELI ENTERPRISE

A Jewish Observer Panorama

DO BRITONS KNOW THEIR ONIONS?

AGREXCO MAKES THE GRADE

from our own correspondent

London:

"In the markets of Europe, Israel is no longer merely the country the Jaffas come from," declared Shimon Pridan, London manager of the Agricultural Export Company, in an interview with the JEWISH OBSERVER.

"With every month that passes, a steadily increasing variety of fresh and frozen farm products are being exported to Britain and the Continent," he continued, "and their reputation for high quality at reasonable cost has resulted in rising demand."

Agrexco, as the company is known, was set up some two-and-a-half years ago in order to develop and co-ordinate Israel's agricultural exports. It deals with every type of product except citrus fruit, for which there is an entirely separate and independent organisation—the Citrus Marketing Board.

The Ministry of Agriculture, the Jewish Agency, Tnuva (the farm produce marketing organisation of the co-operative sector), and the two private marketing organisations of Tenne and Amir are all represented in Agrexco, which is considered a semi-governmental body.

Season starts earlier: One of the main advantages Israel had over many of her competitors was the fact that the season for many commodities began earlier there than in other countries, said Pridan. Israeli grapes, for instance, came onto the English and European markets some six weeks before any others, and melons seven weeks earlier.

Because of this fact, Israeli onions had earned more money per 56 lb. box, than a similarly sized crate of oranges, and such commodities as green peppers (capsicum), pomegranates, aubergines, and avocado pears, as well as tomatoes, potatoes and bananas had all brought good prices, which more than made up for the extra freight and other charges Israeli produce has to carry because it comes from so far away, Pridan continued.

In the summer, the only competitor for Israeli avocado pears, which can be eaten in a variety of ways—sweet, savoury, on their own or combined with other fruit, vegetables, meat or fish—was

the Californian avocado, which was more expensive because it had to come even further on its journey to English markets.

Greengrocers like cartons: Bananas, too, had had a great success in England particularly, Pridan said, not only because the fruit itself was of high quality and good flavour, but because the method of packing it appealed to retailer and housewife alike.

Generally, bananas were packed in wooden boxes before distribution to greengrocers, Pridan explained, and a 10/- deposit (returnable, of course) had to be paid on every box. This meant that shopkeepers had to tie up money in wooden boxes, money which could have been used for buying stock.

The Israelis had packed a large proportion of their bananas in strong cardboard containers, which were not returnable, and on which there was no deposit. The result had been that the fruit needed much less handling on arrival, was easier to display and reached the greengrocer in tip-top condition. The attractively printed containers also served as striking point-of-sale advertising, an important advantage.

Most popular in Scotland: Another



ISRAELIS BOX CLEVER
The greengrocers like them

boxed commodity which had won great praise was new potatoes. These were exported in Bruce boxes—cases made of thin wooden slats bound with wire and nailed to strong wooden frames. The new potatoes were packed in Huleh peat to keep them absolutely fresh, and they stayed as fresh as the day they were packed for a very long time.

Pridan expects to sell 100,000 56 lb. boxes of Israeli new potatoes next season. He was proud of the fact that, in Scotland, the most popular new potatoes of all, locally grown or imported, were those that Agrexco was responsible for bringing into Britain, he said, quoting from letters he had received from the trade.

Huleh peat featured again in connection with another product—asparagus. Israel

ELLIS & GOLDSTEIN LTD.

(Manufacturers of Coats, Costumes, Dresses and Skirts

"Eastex" "Dereta" and "Rembrandt")

Capital Raised to Qualify for Trustee Status

The 24th annual general meeting of Ellis & Goldstein Limited was held on July 12 in London, Mr. Samuel Goldstein (Chairman and Joint Managing Director) presiding.

The combined profits of the Company and its subsidiaries for the year to 30th November, 1960, compared with those for the previous year, were as follows:

	Year to 30th November, 1960	Year to 30th November 1959
Profits before Taxation ...	£850,534	£680,061
Provision for Taxation ...	£434,770	£331,024
Net Profits after Tax ...	£415,764	£349,037
Total Retained ...	£244,883	£271,037

The profits before taxation for the year to 30th November, 1960, include £23,114 resulting from eleven

months' trading of Maxwell Pollard Ltd., manufacturers of "Maxwelle Original" skirts, combined with twelve months' trading of another company engaged solely on garment production for the group. These two companies were acquired during the year.

The Directors propose that a dividend of 35 per cent actual, less tax, be paid on the Ordinary capital, including the bonus issue of one new 1s. Ordinary Stock Unit for every five held, made in April last. A further scrip issue of one-for-ten is now being made to qualify the Company's Capital under the terms of the Trustee Investment Bill.

Group turnover for the first six months of the current year again shows an increase and in the absence of unforeseen circumstances your Board feel confident that the profits realised last year will be fully maintained in the year to 30th November, 1961.

The report was adopted.

has, begun growing asparagus on a fairly large scale on the peaty soil of the area reclaimed from the Huleh swamps, which is particularly suitable for the cultivation of what so many people regard as a delicacy. "Of course, we fly it over," said Shimon Pridan.

Fresh cut flowers: His company also flies over fresh cut gladioli every night so that they arrive ready for the early morning Covent Garden trade. Israeli gladioli were exhibited at the last Royal Horticultural Society flower show and were a great success. Also enjoying an increasing vogue for planting in English gardens are gladioli bulbs, packed twelve in a colourful carton, and hand-picked for size, colour and general high quality.

"We are also breaking into the frozen food market on an increasingly large scale," Pridan pointed out. "This year we hope to export 4,000 tons of frozen eggs worth £800,000, and we include J. Lyons, Marks and Spencer and various bakery firms among our clients."

A first-time frozen food buyer of Israeli products will be the Birdseye organisation, which has placed an order for corn on the cob—frozen in Israel—to be sold here under the Birdseye trademark.

Bright prospects: Ready-dressed, *kasher*, frozen chickens are already an important export item for Israel, Pridan revealed. Although they cannot be exported to this country because of various Government regulations here, they are sent in increasing numbers to West Germany, where Agrexco has a branch office to handle Israel's expanding farm exports to that country.

Turning to future prospects, Pridan said that he looked forward with confidence to steadily growing markets for Israel's established agricultural exports, from melons to eggs, as well as for frozen foods and commodities either exported now in very small quantities or not at all. The fact that 1961 will be a better year than 1960, when Europeans spent some £5 million on what Pridan has to sell, seems to bear out his optimism.

EL AL SERVICE WITH A DIFFERENCE

"Breakfast in London, fast in Israel" could well be the slogan for the new service El Al are arranging for intending travellers to Israel for the coming high holy days.

In addition to providing extra flights on its jet and jet-prop services, Israel's national airline will, for a nominal cost, reserve synagogue seats for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and other towns and cities.

ZIONISM

YOUTHFUL SUMMER

IN ISRAEL

A POPULAR SCHEME

This week marks the start of a mass invasion of Israel by Jewish youth from all parts of the world. Under the Summer in Israel youth schemes promoted by the Youth and Hechalutz Department of the Jewish Agency, more than 1,700 young people from thirteen countries will be visiting Israel.

The British contingent of 350, one of largest from Europe, includes some 250 representatives of leading Zionist, youth and student organisations, 66 participants in the Maccabi jamboree which is being held in association with the Maccabia, and about 30 advanced level students, comprising a special group, who will investigate settlement possibilities during their stay in Israel.

All the young tourists will spend between one and two months in Israel, attending short seminars, visiting beauty spots, development areas and inspecting educational and cultural institutions. By the end of this year, a total of 10,000 young people will have visited Israel since the establishment of the State under the Summer in Israel scheme. A fifth of them will have come from Britain.

HABONIM OPEN DAY

Well over 200 people attended the Habonim open day at the Harmony Club in Clapton last Sunday to see the handicrafts exhibition put on by the 250 or so members of North London Habonim, whose ages range from ten to twenty.

Alderman L. Sherman, Mayor of Hackney, was the guest of honour, and gave a short address to those present. Although, the Harmony Club is at present only the temporary headquarters of the North London Habonim, there are hopes that space will be found in the grounds for a permanent headquarters for the group.

CLASSIFIED

SPECIALISING IN WX & OS Dresses, Jumper Suits & Duster Coats to the retail. I. Hoffman (Garments) Ltd. 31/32 Crown Street, Western Road, Brighton. Tel.: Brighton 27508. Represented Cardiff, South Coast, Birmingham, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Glasgow and London.

AUTHORS invited submit MSS all types (including Poems) for book publication. Reasonable terms. Stockwell Ltd., Ilfracombe. (estd. 1898).

LETTER

THE JEWISH LEGION

Sir,—Those of your readers, who or whose relatives served in the Zion Mule Corps or the 38th, 39th or 40th Bn. Royal Fusiliers under Allenby, will be interested to know, if they have not heard already, that the main buildings of Beth Hagdudim at Avichail were consecrated on the 15th May in the presence and with the active participation of President Ben Zvi, Premier Ben-Gurion and many other notable people.

It will be recalled that many ex-legionnaires desired, when the last of the battalion was disbanded, to remain in Palestine. They obtained land on which they established the agricultural settlement of Avichail (a couple of miles from Natanya).

Other veterans who returned to the U.S. and Canada, formed an Association. Beth Hagdudim consists of a Memorial Hall, Museum and Library, a Conference Hall, a Club Room and a swimming pool. It is mainly thank to the efforts of the American Association that the cost to date has been borne. Photographs and other material for the Museum, books for the library and last, but by no means least, money are required to complete the project.

The British contribution, so far, has been insignificant. The small Committee of which I am Chairman desires to get in touch with all survivors of the Judeans in the United Kingdom and in Ireland and the relatives of those who have died. We would like the response to the call to be worthy of the Community.

Beth Hagdudim commemorates those who comprised the first units since the days of Bar-Kochba to fight for the liberation of Eretz Israel. It is already a centre—almost a place of pilgrimage—for visitors. It is proposed to hold a Convention of Veterans there, next year.

Correspondence should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Phillip Jacobs, 26 The Vale, London, N.W.11. He will be pleased to give any further information desired.

Henry D. Myer,
Chairman

Beth Hagdudim Ltd.,
Great Britain Liaison Committee

BROADCASTS FROM ISRAEL

Wavelength 33.3 metres

Fri. 14th July: 9.15 The News, 9.25 Report on the Eichmann Trial, 9.30 Sabbath Programme, 9.44 News Headlines.

Sat. 15th July: 9.15 The News, 9.25 Editorial Opinion, 9.35 Israel Cantors, 9.44 News Headlines.

Sun. 16th July: 9.15 The News, 9.25 Heritage: The Census Then and Now, 9.40 International Sports Quiz: Conclusion—Part 6 (to be repeated July 23), 9.44 News Headlines.

Mon. 17th July: 9.15 The News, 9.25 Newsreel (including Report on the Eichmann Trial), 9.44 News Headlines.

Tues. 18th July: 9.15 The News, 9.25 Commentary, 9.30 Report on the Eichmann Trial, 9.44 News Headlines.

Wed. 19th July: 9.15 The News, 9.25 Report on the Eichmann Trial, 9.44 News Headlines.

Thurs. 20th July: 9.15 The News, 9.25 Report on the Eichmann Trial, 9.35 Music: Nightfall in Israel, 9.44 News Headlines.

JPA-JNF NEWS

Prepared by JPA/JNF Public Relations Department, 4 St. George Street, Hanover Square, W.1, Hyde Park 2286/7

LEICESTER COMES THROUGH

CANVASS SUPPLANTS DINNER

Leicester J.P.A. chairman Leon Clarfield enrolled his entire family—wife, sons and daughter—for last week's canvassing drive which brought in £3,500 from a large number of contributors in this city. Also playing a prominent part in this successful door-to-door effort was Eli Simons, honorary secretary.

It will be recalled that Leicester's traditional J.P.A. dinner was cancelled at the last minute because of the illness of the Rev. I. Sussman, Minister of the congregation. In response to an appeal by J.P.A. treasurer Hyam Morrison, however, the committee undertook to keep its J.P.A. promise through a campaign restricted to canvassing.

£6,500 RESULT OF BRIGHTON CONCERT

For the twelfth year in succession, the Brighton J.P.A./J.N.F. committee has organised its annual J.N.F. charity concert at the Hippodrome and once more made this well-planned event an outstanding success. As a result, a sum of approximately £6,500 was realised for land reclamation in Israel.

This is an achievement that speaks volumes for the untiring effort of each member of the committee.

BARMITZVAH FOREST WINS L'POOL SUPPORT

ROSSER CHINN TERMS LAND DEVELOPMENT "BASIC PROBLEM"

At least 7,500 trees in the Barmitzvah Forest to be planted at Betar on the road overlooking Jerusalem will bear the names of Liverpool contributors.

Such was the outcome of a communal dinner last month attended by J.N.F. President Rosser Chinn that had Saul Rosenblatt, local J.N.F. leader, in the Chair. Mr. Chinn took as his theme the vast area of Israel still awaiting development—about 80% of national territory, he said. Afforestation had been shown, from experience, to be the best means of opening up such regions for settlement. For tree planting gave the soil a chance to heal and enabled workers to clear rock-strewn terrain and build roads.

Discussing prospects for this year's immigration, the J.N.F. president warned that the figures are likely to mount very considerably. Already, the first few months of 1961 had shown that there were many thousands pressing against the gates for entry. This was why land development remained Israel's basic problem.

A warm tribute to Mr. Chinn's leadership of the J.N.F. movement in

this country came from Israel Karp. "We have with us a community personality outstanding for his sincerity and dynamism," he said.

The two hundred guests were praised by Mr. Rosenblatt for showing Anglo-Jewry a fine example of devotion to Israel and an understanding of the long-term needs of the country.

Auxiliary: Next chairman of Liverpool J.N.F. Auxiliary is to be I. Swaden, and he was guest of honour at the annual dinner of this group recently. This proved a moving occasion for all those present, especially when Mr. Swaden said: "That you have selected me to lead you makes me feel humbly thankful. I was born in Danzig, and had fate not been kind I might have been one of the six million Jews murdered by the Nazis. It is therefore with deep gratitude that I feel free to work for our people."

Last year's activities of the J.N.F. Auxiliary had brought in £7,000.

LEEDS EVENTS

A decision has been made by the Leeds Blue and White executive to hold another of these communal efforts in June 1963. A meeting took place last week when the arrangements for the recently-concluded Bazaar were reviewed with a view to still further improvement of the function.

New Fellowship: The eighth J.N.F. Fellowship in Leeds has just been formed. It consists of youngsters aged 13-15 and is to be known as the "Hatikvah Group."

Other recent meetings in this category of the movement in Leeds were of the Blue Box Fellowship, the Jubilee Fellowship and the Carmel Group.

The Blue Box Fellowship now has a new executive as follows: chairman, Harry Lees; vice-chairman, W. Chadwick; treasurer, I. Clarke; hon. secretary, Mrs. P. P. Montrose. M. M. Simons remains as president.

ENGAGEMENT

The engagement is announced of Alan Caplan, elder son of the joint-chairman of the St. John's Wood committee and Mrs. David Caplan, to Judith Ann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Brostoff of Leeds.

IN THE GOLDEN BOOK

Recent inscriptions include: Judith and Max Segal on the occasion of their son Edward's barmitzvah by the Dublin Daughters of Zion, Ziona, Huldah, South Dublin Wizo, Hadassah Zionist Council of Ireland and Dublin Talmud Torah; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lurie and daughters by Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Blass; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Menasche and son by Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Blass.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Smith by the S.W. Essex J.N.F. Commission; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Shrafran by the S.W. Essex J.N.F. Commission; Anthony Collins on the occasion of his barmitzvah by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Collins; Lloyd Rakusen on the occasion of his barmitzvah by his parents; in memory of Sophie and Hyman Zaft by their daughters Sarah, Anna, Freda and Marie; Harold Ian Bodansky on the occasion of his barmitzvah by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Bodansky; Louis Plotnikoff by his friends and colleagues of the Glasgow Blue and White Committee; Archie Shulman by his friends and colleagues of the Glasgow Blue and White Committee.

Ian James Dobkin on the occasion of his barmitzvah by his parents; Alan A. Gordon on the occasion of his son's barmitzvah by his friends and colleagues of the Glasgow Blue and White Committee.

The new HIGH in girdles

Xtra-Hi

BY Silhouette



Corsets Silhouette Ltd., 84 Baker St., W.1

J P A - J N F N E W S

VISITING ISRAEL? HERE ARE TWO TOURIST TIPS OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

AVDAT—AN ANCIENT CITY RESTORED

This year's visitors to Israel will be able to see something of the country's ancient civilisation if they care to take an off-the-beaten-track trip into the heart of the Negev. For a Nabatean city has been uncovered by the archaeologists, one that goes back to 200 B.C.E. but has lately been restored by the Government Tourist Corporation, aided by United States funds.

This is Avdat. It is situated between Sde Boker and Mizpeh Rimon, commanding the crossroads to Petrah, Gaza and Eilat. The site was originally a fortress and trading city, but was deserted by the Arabs nearly a thousand years ago.

During the restoration process, remarkable evidence was found of the resourcefulness and high standard of civilisation of the Nabateans, with their scientifically devised irrigation channels, reservoirs and storage caves.

Remains of pottery and watch-towers portray the story of the Roman Emperor Trajan's occupation in 106 C.E. Even in those days people were anxious about their figures, and nearby there is an elaborate Roman bath-house fully equipped with steam heat apparatus.

As part of the Byzantine Empire, Avdat was enlarged and the citizens converted to Christianity. The later relics therefore signify the lives of the early Christians with their splendid churches and tombs. Try and find time for a visit even if your stay in Israel must be brief.

NEOT HAKIKAR—REVIVAL OF THE DEAD SEA

Turning southward on the lowest road in the world, you enter a region of sprawling green "sabha" near the southern shore of the Dead Sea. This wild and uninhabited area was recently occupied by a group of youngsters, former Nahal personnel long used to Negev conditions. It was a leap in the dark into a kingdom of snakes and anopheles. The group had taken the advice of Benjamin Roger, an agronomist, to establish a cattle-raising farm in this forbidding region. Neot Hakikar had come alive.

The initial step was the purchase of 120 head of cattle with funds allocated

from private and government sources. Some months later, when acclimatisation of the cattle proved satisfactory, the herd was increased to about 250 head.

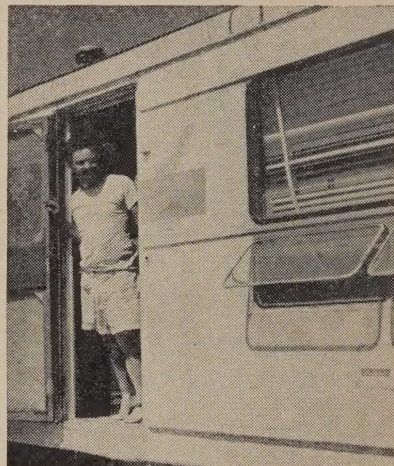
Cattle growing was not the only job which occupied the group. With the assistance of the Ministry of Agriculture, they started the cultivation of flowers, particularly gladioli, various kinds of

vegetables and over 40 dunams of date-palms. All this is slowly proving that the salt marshes are suitable for such plantations.

As in most new settlements, living accommodation first consisted of a wooden hut, but a recent acquisition was a caravan supplied with gas and electricity, and eventually the settlers plan to build stone houses, their proud sign of permanent habitation.



Church of St. Theodorus, Avdat



Caravan home of the Neot Hakikar settlers



Restoration of the ancient Nabatean city of Avdat (dating from 200 B.C.E.) in the heart of the Negev between Sde Boker and Mizpeh Rimon. View of north church.

JPA - JNF NEWS



A lively scene on the shores of the Dead Sea. The expanding herd at the cattle ranch of Neot Hakikar

SWEET MELONS FROM SALT SOIL

The Jewish National Fund recently started work on the amelioration of 100 dunams of brackish soil at the spot where Wadi Amatsyahu ends in the Sdom salt swamps south of the Dead Sea.

Here, tests are to be carried out with various agricultural crops which are to be irrigated with brackish water. The plan was endorsed after great success had been achieved with the first harvest of sweet melons grown on the fields of Neot Hakikar, referred to above, irrigated by water with a chloride content of 700

milligrams per litre (400mg/litre is generally regarded as the absolute possible maximum).

Tomatoes, cucumbers and onions have also given good yields, reaching the market at a time when these vegetables were very scarce. Fodder and beets too are reported to have met with spectacular success.

The J.N.F. is now planting windbreak avenues in the cultivated area and orchards of tropical fruits are also being planned.

"BYE BYE BIRDIE"

The two leading Younger J.N.F. Commissions, Charities Aid and Junior Blue and White, joined forces last week to present a Gala Performance of the new American musical hit, "Bye Bye Birdie" at Her Majesty's Theatre.

This Gala was a final effort to exceed the target before closing the financial year. Consequently, the two Commissions, led by Trevor Chinn and David Weener, now have an extra £1,200 to their credit. This, together with other Younger Commission proceeds, will go towards the Mount Meron project in Israel.

THEY CALL IT SABRA

A new Younger J.N.F. Commission has been formed for the Finchley district. Its chairman is Stuart Sharer and the members have adopted the name "Sabra

Society."

A full programme of functions has been planned and prospective members are invited to contact either Mr. Sharer at FINchley 4344 or Marguerite Green, functions chairman, at FINchley 4775.

THE LATE ALEXANDER KAY

One of the best-known Zionist figures in the North, and a leading worker for J.P.A. in Liverpool, died last month. This was Alexander Kay, J.P., who had been for many years a vice-president of the Zionist Federation and president of the Merseyside Jewish Representative Council.

Mr. Kay had played a major part in civic affairs and in the Workers Education Association. His loss is deeply mourned by his many Jewish and non-Jewish friends in the community.

THIS WEEK'S
BEST BOXES

E. LONDON: Alfred Green Robes, Ltd., 583c Commercial Road, E.1, £2.10.0.

N. LONDON: Mrs. L. Veronique, 81 Lordship Park, N.16, £4.1.0. Mr. M. H. Blackstein, 425 Green West Road, N.15, £2.13.3. Mrs. Fanny Kopolovitch, 66 Leadale Road, N.15, £2.8.0. Mr. Leighton, 157 Wargrave Avenue, N.15, £2.4.3. Mrs. Savitt, c/o Tottenham Women's Zionist Society, 84 Wellington Avenue, N.15, £2.0.0.

N.W. LONDON: Mr. W. Kossoff, 11 Rowden Avenue, N.W.10, £2.0.0. Mr. J. Arkus, 20 Old Church Lane, N.W.9, £5.0.0. Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Eden, Edenville, Gloucester Gardens, N.W.11, £4.6.0. Mr. F. Ehrlich and Miss Thieberger, 255 Goldhurst Terrace, N.W.6, £3.13.0. Mrs. Gee, 5 Carmel Court, Gloucester Gardens, N.W.11, £3.0.0. Mrs. L. Benzion, 128 Goldhurst Terrace, N.W.6, £2.14.0. Mr. Richard Adler, 95b Priory Road, N.W.6, £2.11.6. Mr. I. Bines, 77 Finchley Road, N.W.11, £2.11.6. Mrs. L. Stutta, 30 Alexander Avenue, N.W.10, £2.11.0. Mr. T. Ferber, 41 Compayne Gardens, N.W.6, £2.2.6. Mr. L. Hoff, 115 Greencroft Gardens, N.W.6, £2.2.0. Mr. A. Scott, 20 Gloucester Gardens, N.W.11, £2.1.6. Mr. S. Torrance, 2 Alvanley Gardens, N.W.6, £2.1.0. Mr. and Mrs. L. Epstein, 37 Woodlands Close, N.W.11, £2.0.0. Mr. F. Black, 225 Salmon Street, N.W.9, £2.0.0. Mr. H. Stern, 33 Alexander Avenue, N.W.10, £2.0.0.

W. LONDON: Mr. L. Muller, Flat 20, Caroline House, Bayswater Road, W.2, £26.11.6. Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Mintz, Flat H, 2 Hyde Park Street, W.2, £7.18.0. Dr. L. Lassic, 42 Cleveland Road, W.13, £5.15.0. Mrs. Sieff, 5 Sussex Square, W.2, £5.14.0. Mrs. June Hakim, 31 Gunnersbury Avenue, W.5, £2.16.0. Mr. O. Deutch, 84 Drayton Bridge Road, W.7, £2.15.9. Mrs. J. Kay, 9 Uxbridge Road, W.5, £2.3.9. Mr. Marx, 22 Gilroy House, Gloucester Terrace, W.2, £2.3.0. Mrs. Harris, Flat 3, 1 Lancaster Terrace, W.2, £2.0.0. Mr. A. Elton, 8 Porchester Gate, W.2, £2.0.0. Mr. Herman, 42 Albion Street, Bayswater Road, W.2, £2.0.0.

DARLINGTON: Mr. Rackkind, 19 Elton Parade, £3.10.0. Mr. Sol Abrahams, 5 March Street, £2.18.3. Mrs. Baum, 10 Neville Road, £2.10.0.

GLASGOW: Mr. and Mrs. H. Benson, 21 Norbreck Drive, Giffnock, £8.0.0. Mrs. L. Mair, 20 Woodlands Road, Thornliebank, £5.0.6. Mr. L. Bloch, 65 Dalrside Avenue, Falkirk, £4.0.0. Miss L. Aitken, 20 Woodside Terrace, Falkirk, £3.10.0. Mr. H. Monk, 16 Muran Drive, N.W., £3.2.6. Mrs. H. Bernstein, 168 Ayr Road, Newton Mearns, £3.0.0. Mr. H. Cohen, 22 Lauderdale Drive, Newton Mearns, £2.12.0. Mr. L. Ferrar, 20 Hathaway Drive, Giffnock, £2.12.0. Dr. S. Naftalin, 20 Falkland Street, W.2, £2.12.0. Mrs. F. Shenkin, 3 Lonsdale Avenue, Giffnock, £2.12.0. Mrs. S. Rankin, 20 Merylees Road, £2.12.0. Mr. H. Harvey, 2 Ruthven Avenue, Giffnock, £2.10.6. Mr. S. Line, 5 Glamis Avenue, Newton Mearns, £2.2.0. Mrs. S. Geneen, 20 Abbottsford Place, C.5, £2.0.0. Mrs. L. Jesner, Ad-Gowal, Douglas Gardens, Giffnock, £2.0.0.

LEICESTER: Mr. and Mrs. M. Besbrode, 5 Stoughton Street, £2.10.0. Dr. and Mrs. C. Kuper, 9 Bade Road, £2.9.10. Miss Spicel, 118 Evington Road, £2.0.0.

LUTON AND DUNSTABLE: Mr. and Mrs. J. Stone, 40 Cranleigh Gardens, Luton, £4.8.0. Mr. and Mrs. S. Benjamin, 217 New Bedford Road, Luton, £3.7.0. Mr. and Mrs. S. Stern, 272 Stockingstone Road, Luton, £3.3.0. Mr. and Mrs. Davis, 45 Waller Road, Luton, £2.16.6. Mrs. Isenberg, 218a Leagrave Road, Luton, £2.14.6. Mr. and Mrs. Josephs, 227 Birdsfoot Lane, Luton, £2.11.0. Mr. and Mrs. Conway, 13 Graham Gardens, Luton, £2.6.0.

PORT TALBOT: Mrs. S. Arron, 30 Dunraven Street, £12.10.0. Mrs. I. Factor, 46 Victoria Road, £4.5.6. Miss E. Green, 27 Dunraven Street, £2.0.0.

SOUTHPORT: Mr. and Mrs. Daniels, 5 Selworthy Road, £9.0.0. Mrs. B. L. Ryman, 32 Barrett Road, £8.0.0. Mrs. Kushner, 3 Hartley Road, £5.4.0. Mr. and Mrs. B. Foster, 29 Oxford Road, £4.6.5. Mrs. B. Huglin, 11a Park Avenue, £4.0.0. Mrs. Berwitz, 11b Albany Road, £4.0.0. Mr. A. Swerling, 78 Promenade, £4.0.0. Miss M. Vyber, 116 Virginia Street, £4.0.0. Mrs. Lipson, 29 Grosvenor Road, £3.12.6. Mrs. M. Plagerson, 53a Lutworth Road, £3.12.6. Mr. Millman, 40 Waterloo Road, £3.0.0. Mrs. L. J. Rosen, 18a Lutworth Road, £2.16.9. Mr. F. Friedland, Coudray Road, £2.12.6. Mr. Max Cantor, 3 Lutworth Road, £2.12.0. Mr. M. Myers, 7 Lutworth Road, £2.12.0. Mrs. Cassell, 6 Harrod Drive, £2.10.0. Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin, 4a Everton Road, Birkdale, £2.10.0. Mr. and Mrs. Saffrin, 13 Regent Road, £2.8.3. Mr. and Mrs. Woolf, 4 Greenbank Drive, £2.2.0. Mrs. Morrel, 1 Palatine Road, £2.0.6.

14,000 Lines in 20 Departments

Cycles T.V. Electrical Goods Bedding Sweepers Washing Machines
 Furniture Carpets Linoleum Mantles Furs Men's Wear Radio
 Ironmongery Drysaltery Hardware China Toys Fancies Fireplaces
 Garden Tools, etc.

Alexanders**STORES LIMITED**

ESTABLISHED 1835

7 BATH STREET, GLASGOW, C.2

DOUGLAS 2824

ACME WHARF, RIVER ROAD, BARKING, ESSEX

RIPPLEWAY 2771

CASH

*paid for Manufacturers'
 Surplus Stocks of Furniture,
 Radio and Clearing Lines
 in the above departments*

SHOP

*properties wanted in Dunfermline,
 Perth, Aberdeen, Greenock, Mother-
 well, Coatbridge and especially in
 the North of England*

ALL OFFERS IN STRICT CONFIDENCE TO GLASGOW OFFICE**BRANCHES IN SCOTLAND:**

Kirkintilloch, Falkirk, Hamilton, Stirling,
 Bridgeton Glasgow, Great Western Road
 Glasgow, Edinburgh, Kilmarnock, Bo'ness,
 Ayr, Kilsyth, Kirkaldy, Paisley, Bathgate and
 incorporating William Hunter & Co. Ltd.
 of Dundee.

happy birthday !**ON ISRAEL'S BARMITZVAH YEAR**

The Jewish people looks with pride
 on Israel's achievement during
 thirteen years of statehood.

**BUT LET US NOT FORGET
 MANY UNMET NEEDS MUST
 STILL BE MET**

- ¶ Immigration
- ¶ Absorption and Housing
- ¶ Agricultural Settlement

**GIVE GENEROUSLY
 TROUGH**

Keren Hayesod

**75 Gt. Russell St., London. W.C.1
 MUSeum 3815**